

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-02

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-02 /005 R

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R 202254 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 119651

FOLL SENT ACTION CANBERRA INFO BANGKOK WELLINGTON LONDON
MANILA FROM SECSTATE 19 JUN 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

E C R E T STATE 119651

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, SEATO

SUBJECT: GOA VIEWS ON SEATO EXERCISE

REF: STATE 118859

1. DURING JUNE 18 CALL, REPORTED REFTEL, AUSTRALIAN
AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL STATED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DESIGNATE GODLEY THAT HE ALSO WISHED TO RAISE QUESTION
OF ADVISIBILITY OF SCHEDULED SEATO NAVAL EXERCISE
PX 49, DUE TO BE HELD OCTOBER 24 TO NOVEMBER 7 IN THE
CHINA SEA. AUSTRALIA AND UK WERE SCHEDULED TO BE TH
SPONSORING POWERS. GOA HAD THREE BASIC REASONS FOR NOT
WANTING TO GO FORWARD WITH THIS EXERCISE, ORIGINALLY
SCHEDULED IN JULY 1972: (1) EXERCISE IN SOUTH CHINA
SEA NOW INAPPROPRIATE FROM GOA FOREIGN POLICY POINT OF
VIEW, ESPECIALLY GIVEN CHANGE OF SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST
ASIA; (2) IT IS EXPECTED THAT PM WHITLAM WILL BE IN PRC

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AT THAT TIME; (3) EXERCISE WOULD JUST FOLLOW SEATO
COUNCIL MEETING IN NEW YORK AND MIGHT APPEAR TO SOME
TO BE A PRODUCT OF THAT MEETING.

2. DURING SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH MR. GODLEY,
AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL STATED THAT OTHERWISE HIS GOVERNMENT
WAS WILLING TO GO AHEAD WITH SEATO POLICIES MUCH AS IN
PAST. HE CONFIRMED THAT GOA INTENDED TO SEND MINISTER
FOR STATE WILLESEE TO SEATO COUNCIL MEETING IN NEW YORK
IN LATE SEPTEMBER. ROGERS
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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